

of "patent medicine." They do not appear to be aware, nor will any amount of reiteration of the fact, apparently, arouse them to the knowledge, that homeopathy is a system of specifics, that it has a specific for almost every ailment, ache, or pain that flesh is heir to, that every form of disease has a similar in some known drug.

Could they become convinced of this, (and they have only to test for themselves to ascertain whether this be true,) they would find a certainty in the action of drugs they never before were accustomed to.

Eschew if they please the infinitesimal doses which appear to be the greatest stumbling block; adhere to heroic doses if you can, but take the principle of giving your remedies in accordance with the law *similia*, as elucidated in the works of Hahnemann, and then say if there is not truth in it; and they will find that store of specifics for which you have so long sought in vain.

But to return to our subject, the object at which their shafts are most frequently hurled is the small dose—the little pills; so small an amount of medicine can be of no effect, say they.

Mere assertion is no proof. And to prove to us that we are deluded, or to satisfy themselves that we have reason for our faith, observe the rule by which all homeopaths are guided in the selection of their remedies; give them in any dose they please, and note the effect carefully. If they find their patient worse from the remedy, let them observe if it is not the specific action of the drug. If so, diminish the quantity until you find no aggravation of the morbid symptoms; and note how long they will be in coming to the conclusion that it is not the

quantity of medicine, but the kind, that produces desired effects.

Every morbid effect has a specific cause. The human system is made up from a combination of organs, each having its specific function, selecting its specific aliment, and is acted on by specific influences. The liver secretes the bile, the stomach gastric juice, &c.—Neither can be made to perform the office of the other,

We also find certain organs of the body affected in a specific manner by a single drug; its effects may be spent upon a single organ or a number of organs, but the effect is specific—it is such as no other substances will exactly produce. Colocynth and castor oil will each produce catharsis, but no one believes their action is precisely the same on the alimentary canal. Tartar emetic and ipecac produce emesis, but their action is dissimilar, as is well known by every tyro in medicine. Hahnemann claims to have discovered the specific action of drugs in health, and the fact of their ability to cure disease when the symptoms, physiological and pathological, are similar to those of the effect of the drug.

They certainly cannot oppose our using drugs in any dose, for that would destroy their darling allopathy as with the besom of destruction. They cannot object to specific remedies, for they are searching daily for them. They cannot oppose the law "*similia similibus curantur*," for they have not attempted a practical test of its pretensions.

Hence it would appear they know not what they do; and cling with tenacity to early association of opinions, and repudiate the pressing evidence that meets their ears on every side, deciding *a priori* that no good can "come out of Nazareth."